

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

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號五十九月九年八十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1888.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. O. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOSWOLD, Ludgate Circus, E.C. HENDY & Co., 37, Wallbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DRAYN & Co., 150 & 151, Leadenhall Street, W. M. WILKS, 151, Cannon Street, E.C.
PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMERDI PRINCE & Co., 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.
NEW YORK.—ARTHUR WIND, 21, Park Row.
SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOSWOLD, Melbourne and Sydney.
CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & Co., THE ASSOCIATED CO., Colombo.
SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & Co., Square, Singapore. O. HINSHAM & Co., Manila.
CHINA.—MACAO, F. A. DE CRUZ, Sociedade, Quai da Amizade, Amoy, Nanking, Hankow, Canton, &c. &c. SINGAPORE, LAY & WATSON, Yohannan, LAY, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WATSON, Yohannan, LAY, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WATSON.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$7,500,000
RESERVE FUND, \$4,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OR PROFIT, \$7,500,000
FEBRUARY, 1888.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman.—HON. JOHN BELL-IRVING.
Deputy Chairman.—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
O. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.
W. G. BLOOMFIELD, Esq.
H. L. DRAKE, Esq.
J. F. HOLMES, Esq.
HON. B. LAYTON.
CHIEF MANAGER.—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
SHANGHAI.—EVEN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.
On Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.
T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, September 4, 1888. 363

NOTICE.
RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.
1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Session 1887-8, will be distributed by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Wm. DES VOUX, K.C.M.G.
2.—Sum less than \$1. or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$250 in any one year.
3.—Depositors in the Savings Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at any time transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.
4.—Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.
5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, at the beginning of January and beginning of July.
6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank if marked On Hongkong Savings Bank Business is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.
7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.
For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, September 1, 1888. 754

Intimations.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Ordinary General MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Office of the Undersigned, on SATURDAY, the 22nd Instant, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, together with Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1888.
The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 12th to the 22nd Instant, both days inclusive.
DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers.
Hongkong, September 10, 1888. 1515

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Business Notices.

LANE CRAWFORD & Co.

HAVE RECEIVED NEW STOCKS OF
CRICKETING GOODS.—BATS, BALLS, STUMPS, LEG-GUARDS, &c.
CAPS, FLANNEL SHIRTS, SHOES, and SCORING BOOKS.
TENNIS GOODS.—BATS and BALLS from various makers. NETS, POLES, COURT MARKERS, &c.
TENNIS SHOES.
BATS RE-STRUNG.

LAWN MOWERS.
BILLIARD TABLES.—CUES, BALLS, RESTS, &c.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, September 6, 1888. 1490

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Hongkong, September 6, 1888. 1490

W. POWELL & Co.

ARE LANDING, EX S.S. GLENLYON.

AN ENTIRELY NEW STOCK OF PERFUMERY:

ROGER & GALLEY'S Eau de Cologne, BRILLIANTINE ANTHEA, VIOLETS DE

TOILETTE, Eau de Quinine.

VIOLETS' KADURA.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE, FORTUIT-ME-NOT, STEPHANOIS, FLEURS DE CHAMPS, WINTER

BLOSSOMS, SUMMER FLOWERS, NEW MOON HAY, &c., &c.

CEAVER'S BAL and CAKE SOAPS, ROSEMARY & CANTHARIDES HAIR WASH, PEAR'S SOAP.

W. POWELL & Co. 1503

VICTORIA EXHIBITION, September 8, 1888.

Intimations.

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

THE Annual General MEETING of the above SOCIETY will be held in the City Hall on MONDAY EVENING, the 17th Instant, at 6 o'clock, to receive the Committee's Report and Statement of Accounts, elect Officers for the ensuing year, and decide concerning the Celebration of the Forthcoming Anniversary of St. Andrew.

D. H. MACKINTOSH, Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, September 10, 1888. 1513

Intimations.

HONGKONG PUBLIC SCHOOL.

THIS SCHOOL is examined annually by the SYNDICATE of the CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY. The Higher Forms are prepared for the CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS for which Hongkong is a Centre. FIVE UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATES were gained by PUPILS of the PUBLIC SCHOOL at Christmas last.

In Order to extend the advantages of the School to European Residents in the Coast Ports, the HEAD MASTER receives into his family a limited number of Boarders.

Prospectuses on application to the HEAD MASTER.

C. J. BATEMAN, Head Master.

Hongkong, September 4, 1888. 1479

Intimations.

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL, £100,000
In 2,000 SHARES OF £50 EACH.

Directors: J. J. FRANCIS, Esq., Q.C. D. McCulloch, Esq. A. WOOLLEY, Esq. H. J. HOLMES, Esq.

BANKERS: THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

APPLICATIONS FOR SHARES to be made to the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION before the 15th SEPTEMBER INSTANT, on Forms to be obtained from the Secretary and Manager A. G. GORDON, 1, Pedder Street, \$5 per Share to be paid on application, \$5 on allotment, a further sum of \$10, Three Months from date of allotment, \$10 at expiration of Six Months from date of allotment, the balance of \$20 when and as the same shall be called up, under the provisions contained in the Articles of Association, not less than 3 Months' Notice.

By Order, A. G. GORDON, Secretary & Manager.

Hongkong, September 5, 1888. 1485

Intimations.

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

1888.—WINTER TIME TABLE.—1888.

Intimations.

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE RECENT TYPHOON IN THE CHINA SEA.

The *s.s. Cheong Hye Teng*, which arrived here this morning, gives some further details with regard to the action of the recent typhoon which entered the Southern part of the China Sea. It will be remembered that on Sunday last a telegram was received here that the typhoon advanced two days before appeared to have divided into two, the one part travelling North towards the Pacific and the other crossing the Archipelago towards the south. Of the division which went North we have heard little; but the telegram announcing the two-day postponement of the American mail steamer *Arctic* indicated that a tempest was blowing in the neighbourhood of Yokohama. As to the Southern part we heard yesterday from the *Friga* that she had encountered it off Padarong on the 11th inst. This news is supplemented by the report of the *Cheong Hye Teng*, which is as follows:—

We left Singapore on the 6th Sept. 1898 at 9.15 p.m., and had light N.E. breeze and partially light weather until the 9th, when we had moderate Westerly to South Westerly breezes and light rain showers. By the afternoon of the 10th the wind had changed to N.W., and we had squalls with light Northerly swell; the barometer was at 29.60 and was steadily falling. At 6 p.m. the wind was blowing with moderate force from the N.W., accompanied with frequent rain squalls. The barometer had fallen to 29.25 and continued to fall slowly till midnight, when it indicated 29.20. We were then about 80 miles East of Cape Varella, the weather remaining similar to what it had been during the afternoon. Next day, the 11th, a fresh gale was blowing with frequent heavy squalls and heavy cross sea. The ship laboured very heavily, shipping a large quantity of water fore and aft the decks, and it was evident the ship had run into a typhoon. At 2 a.m. the barometer was at 29.14; at 4 a.m. we had a strong Northerly gale and furious squalls while the barometer had fallen to 29.09; at 8 a.m. the wind was veering to Eastward, barometer 29.15. At 9 a.m. there was a dead calm with heavy cross sea. Flocks of small birds were flying around the steamer and there was every appearance of our being in the centre of a typhoon. At 9.30 a.m. it started to blow very hard with terrific squalls. The water lashed by the wind had the appearance of smoke. The wind and waves were veering to East and South, while the 'glass' had risen to 29.10. We shipped at this time a very heavy body of water, which lifted the starboard life-boat and threw it with great force against the Bridge house, damaging the boat considerably. The boat-crew and the bridge crew were carried away, and the cargo was shifted. At 10 a.m. it was still blowing very hard, but by noon the wind and sea had begun to moderate, while the barometer, which was steadily rising, had gone up to 29.28. At 4 p.m. the ship was put on her course North, and the sea was still making against a heavy cross sea, and the ship laboured a great deal. A breeze from E.S.E. sprang up and continued during the morning of the 12th, when the weather became fine and the cross sea gradually moderated. From that time till we reached port we had fine weather with light to moderate N.E. breeze. On the 14th we passed the *s.s. Frankenberg* and the *s.s. Boulder* in Lat. 20° 55' N. and Long. 113° 05' E.

THE REGIMENT SWIMMING RACES.

Committee: Colonel Anderson, Major Ellis, Major Chaytor, Captain Collinson, Lieut. Metcalfe.
Sub-Committee:—Sergeant-Major Hill, Color-Sergeant Phillips, Color-Sergeant Everett, Corporal Foster, Corporal Gorman.
These sports took place to-day at the Victoria Recreation Club bath. There was a large turnout of spectators. The band of the Regiment, under Mr. Moran, played during the afternoon. The first event, which was confined to men of the Regiment, were very fairly contested and some capital swimming was shown. The first event, a handicap race round the Red Buoy, was for members of the Victoria Recreation Club, and was taken part in by a dozen competitors. A very good race was the result, although the competing might have been better managed. Skipper, the winner of the cup, who was the second to start, overtook the leading swimmer in turning the buoy, and in the race home left all the others far behind. Hancock, the fast swimmer of the Regiment, had an easy and highly creditable win in the second race round the Red Buoy. The diving on the whole was rather poor. The following are the results of the competitions:—

- 1—4 lengths:—Open to Lance-Corporals and Privates of 4 years' service. 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(5 starters.)
Pto. Hancock 1
" Crooby 2
" Ricks 3
- 2—4 lengths:—Open to Lance-Corporals and Privates over 8 years' service. 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(4 starters.)
Pto. Hancock 1
" Cooper 2
" Bol 3
- 3—4 lengths:—Open to Lance-Corporals and Privates over 8 years' service. 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(10 starters.)
Pto. Lucas 1
" Regan 2
" Yeoman 3
- 4—4 lengths:—Open to Non-Commissioned Officers of and above the rank of Corporal. 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(4 starters.)
Corpl. Flanagan 1
" Gorman 2
- 5—Round the Red Buoy and back (Handicap). A Cup Open to Members of the Victoria Recreation Club—(12 starters.)
J. Stapani 1
O. Brandt 2
Time 6 min. 35 sec.
- 6—Diving for objects (Open). 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(12 entrants.)
Pto. Hollywell 8 cups.
" Murphy 5
" Gibbo 4
" Bristow 3
- 7—Running Header from the Spring Board. 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(20 entrants.)
Pto. Chappell 1
" Bell 2

- 8—Handicap:—4 lengths (Open). 1st prize, \$5; 2nd prize, \$3; 3rd prize, \$2—(8 starters.)
Pto. Hancock 1
" Ingham 2
" Murphy 3
- 9—Hurdle Race:—2 lengths (Open). 1st prize, \$4; 2nd prize, \$2; 3rd prize, \$1—(8 starters.)
Pto. Cooper 1
" Lucas 2
" Hollywell 3
- 10—Long Race:—Round Red Buoy and back. 1st prize, \$7; 2nd prize, \$4; 3rd prize, \$2; 4th prize, \$1—(5 starters.)
Pto. Hancock 1
" Cooper 2
" Ingham 3
- 11—Tug-of-War:—Right Half Battalion. A Cup. 1st prize, \$10.
Won by left half.

'FROGATON WATERS' MURMUR.

That His Excellency Governor Des Vaux is credited with having said that he neither cares what the Colonists think, nor what they want; and the statement, though neither politic nor wise, wears an air of probability in view of recent events. That I have also heard that His Excellency, if not tired of official life, is getting weary of his island and its residents, and will probably shake the dust of Hongkong from off his feet before the winter is out.

That it is to be hoped our new guns will be in position by that time, so that we may be able to give him a proper parting salute all along the line.
That I do not frequently trouble Government House or Mountain Lodge, but it is often remarked that Sir William Des Vaux has never got into touch with the residents here, and therefore that he, naturally, does not know them.
That indifferent health may have had a great deal to do with this lack of sociability; but as it is essential that a Governor should know something of the people whom he is supposed to govern, our lot cannot be described as a particularly happy one.

That I need not mention what has been so often said, that to err is human, but I do hope that when it has been demonstrated to His Excellency what a huge mistake he has made by imposing this Verandah Tax, he will see his way to withdraw the obnoxious measure, and thus render an appeal to the Secretary of State unnecessary.
That Hongkong is not Fiji, but even if it were, and the native had to be specially considered, this senseless measure is bound to press more heavily upon the Chinese than upon Europeans.
That the now famous Sheik Alim case presents a curious jumble of questionable temper, arbitrary conduct, statesman-like motives, and human weakness—the inevitable question of 'who is she?' at the bottom of it.

That the attitude of His Excellency in regard to the parts played by the Magistrate and the Police Superintendent is clouded by a betrayal of temper, though some say there are facts connected with this case which have not yet reached the public ear.

That it would seem that what really raised the ire of the Chinese was the threatened action for damages raised by the Sergeant's solicitor.

That the Chinese objected to the apocryphal of their domestic hearths being interfered with, and to be threatened thereafter with money damages was too much for their usually apocryphal minds.

That I dare say the Captain Superintendent of Police is perfectly competent to fight his own battle, and to state his case to the Secretary of State.

That most of us objected to the appointment of Mr. Sercombe Smith to the Magistracy in the first instance, for obvious reasons, but we cannot help sympathizing with him on being snubbed and sent back for what can hardly be called a fault, as there is no doubt he did his best according to his lights while on the Bench.

That although the young ex-Magistrate may have now and again mistaken snappishness for dignity, still he may possibly have taken some higher dignity than himself as a model.

That it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and now we have got a Magistrate on the Bench who has certainly graduated in Law, though his experience of the Chinese must be less than that of his immediate predecessor, and his knowledge of the language is nil.

That we know how Interpreters and others have taken advantage of this lack of knowledge in the past, and trust this point will not be overlooked.

That the lesson of the Sheik Alim case is that the Chinese are a peculiar people to deal with, and they should, while obtaining justice and fair-dealing, expect to be led to say that they can get just what they please.

That the working of the Chinese mind is a direct contradiction to the methods of reasoning pursued by occidental intelligences.

That, to return to the vexed Verandah question, it is a pity that the architects and surveyors cannot write and represent the peculiarities of the Public Works Department to the Governor.

That most, if not all, of the local surveyors will tell you that they dare not actively oppose the will of the autocrat but square Head of that Department.

That the Governor ought to make it a rule

to insist upon checking the course of business in the Surveyor General's office, and His Excellency may rest assured, when a complaint comes to him direct, it is a substantial grievance that is being ventilated.

That I have heard it whispered that Captain Deane meditates retirement, and that he did so before the Sheik Alim case cropped up.

That in the event of a vacancy in the command of the Police, the best man on the spot for the appointment would undoubtedly be the present Governor of the Gao, as he has had experience in this branch of administration.

That not a little surprise was felt among the Peak circles over the threatened invasion of the Colonists into the hitherto hallowed regions of the upper levels.

That the wealthy Chinese have determined to go up thither, and they certainly went up higher than the Clubists cared to go at Plunket's tip.

That the sooner we got the low-level tramway the better, so that the numerous footpaths for villas to the eastward may be opened up.

That the moving of large buildings in the United States is as nothing compared to the movement that has lately taken place here in house property.

That it recalls to mind a former main during which the Blue Buildings used to be dealt round about once a week like a pack of cards.

That as the Gamblings Done, called Clubs, are becoming a confirmed nuisance, they should be at once controlled by legislation.

That if Government will not do anything in the way of re-organising the Fire Brigade, the Fire Insurance Companies should call a meeting of those interested, and represent the condition of affairs to the proper quarter.

That the poor you have with you always, and that they are likely to continue so, now that His Excellency has taken them under his protecting wing.

That this fostering patronage is to be regretted, but as the Beggars' Guild regulates the supply of food for Hongkong's use, we may perhaps, through its influence, escape a complete deluge.

That though I love my neighbour even more than myself, if His Excellency's protégés select the immediate neighbourhood of Government House for their happy hunting ground rather than the confines of my own castle, their so doing will not interfere with the placid nature of my slumbers.

That the deteriorating effects of a Hongkong summer are such as to make one wish himself a Bank Note, so that he might avail himself of the advertisement, 'Old and broken Notes will be exchanged for New'—an Aladdin-like transformation badly wanted in many cases.

That it is at the same time consoling to observe that the hot weather is going, and visions of pic-nics, yachting, shooting, polo, pony training, coffee and Taylor, warm and cosy blankets, and so forth, begin to present themselves and to come within a measurable distance of practical economies.

That Hongkong will soon echo to the martial tread of a Highland Regiment and the skirl of their pipes, and the sight of the tartan will send the thoughts of many of us back to the Auld Glen with its heather-clad slopes, gowan-decked braes and rippling burnies—to the auld kirk and the white-haired minister, and the kirk-yard where the auld mither sleeps.

That I trust the Scotch community will give a fitting welcome to the kilted gladiators, who shall feel none the less safe behind the Highland steel, although that is no disparagement to the gallant 'Steelbacks.'

That the long-drawn-out case of the *Estrella* has at last been concluded by a lengthy judgment, in which Judge Russell revelled in the unravelment of that gigantic muddle.

That this case was one after the lawyer's own heart, but it does seem remarkable why so much trouble and fighting and less should accrue to innocent people, through the bogus proceedings of parties who seem to get off free.

That any ill-conditioned adventurer may raise a pother by seizing a vessel on a bogus claim, and leave the trouble and loss for others to bear, does not look like Justice.

That some of the legal gentry appear to have lost their heads and others their diaries, and all had to give evidence concerning events that happened more than three years ago.

That if Lord Charles Borestone is right in saying that our Officers and Men are alike unfitted for modern warfare, it will be necessary at once to invent a new sort of Officer and Soldier.

That perhaps Mr. Edison might be equal to the occasion.

That with all due deference to His Lordship's opinion, I believe our Officers and Men are quite as capable of snuffing themselves to the altered state of things as those of any other nationality, and more so than the Lords of the Admiralty, or the Department.

That reform is wanted in the ships much more than in the men, and when the time comes, as come it will, our men will be found 'standing to their guns' just as naturally as of yore.

BROWNE.

GOSSIP FROM CALOUTA.

I am glad to hear that the riding men in Hongkong are thinking of starting a Polo Club, as I know several who are just burning to get some exercise more exciting than riding down to the racetrack and angrily watching the tardy way in which the work there is progressing. A little bird told me that a kind good little man said a very naughty little word about it the other day; but we must remind him that *tout vient à point à qui sait attendre*, and if he gives him Polo to occupy him, he will be quite happy. I expect the Polo men will find it difficult at first to make the somewhat awkward China ponies go up to the bill and turn cleverly; but they must persevere, as I have seen very bad specimens in the Indian country breeds who have turned out nice and handy after a little trouble. I have often watched the game with interest and felt what a pity it is that ladies are not able to play it. There were one or two ladies' teams once, but the fair players were not successful in managing their ponies and playing the game at one and the same time, so polo for ladies was rightly given up. I do not care to see a man out and knocked about in playing; still less a lady. At a ladies' cricket match, in which I saw a lady's team once, the players in the side and throw her violently to the ground. She was carried home in a scandalous condition, and the blood which ran from her eyes, suggested serious internal injuries. Since then, I have preferred to allow men to play their game, and to see women engaged in reading accounts of cricket matches, that come out to us now and then, in which ladies have figured. Though cricket for men is, I consider, the nicest of all English games, infinitely more manly than lawn tennis which I claim as belonging entirely to the ladies, and to see women engaged in reading accounts of cricket matches, that come out to us now and then, in which ladies have figured. Though cricket for men is, I consider, the nicest of all English games, infinitely more manly than lawn tennis which I claim as belonging entirely to the ladies, and to see women engaged in reading accounts of cricket matches, that come out to us now and then, in which ladies have figured.

It was once said of English people in India 'they eat, they drink, and they die, and then they write home to their friends and say it's the climate that kills them.'

A. HAYES.

INDIA AND TIBET.

(From the *Pioneer* of 26th Aug.)
As we explained at the time, the sending of an expeditionary force into Sikkim had for its objective something more than the mere capture of the Lingtu Fort. There had been such marked progress in the intrigues set on foot by the Lhasa lama that the economic probability of Sikkim being absorbed by Tibet in a very short time. The Raja of Sikkim, a wretched creature, had not the strength of will to assert himself, even if he had wished to do so; and his open sympathy with the cause of the lama frightened those of his subjects who had any patriotic feeling. It was necessary, therefore, to break down the Tibetan influence in Sikkim, a protected State of British India; and it was believed that the moral effect produced by a display of armed strength would accomplish this. But so far this end has not been gained, as the Lhasa lama has played a waiting game, and, favoured by the natural barriers which separate their country from Sikkim proper, have placed our troops at a great disadvantage. If there had been a vulnerable point at which Colonel Graham could have struck after the capture of Lingtu, the affair would have come to an end months ago; but when an enemy has a range of mountains from 14,000 to 17,000 feet high behind which to shelter himself, he can bide his own time and be as obstinate as he chooses in rejecting all overtures. We have, it is true, ousted the Lhasa lama from his abode on the Longlu hill, but their reply to this has been the attack on Gangtok at the end of May and further warlike demonstrations on the slopes of the Jolopha. They have in a measure regained some of the influence over Sikkim which they lost after the Lingtu affair, and it will now be some time before they are brought to their senses. The few experts who are familiar with Tibetan affairs state that the lama is so ignorant of the outside world, and so vain of their own strength, that they really believe they can sweep our troops from Sikkim and are bent upon trying the experiment. They have spread reports throughout the country of their intended advance in strength, and these have had marked effect upon the timorous Raja and his equally timorous subjects.

The professions which the Lhasa monks now put forward as regards their right to control Sikkim are no means new. In 1873, when two British officers tried to reach Chumbi, the Chinese representatives at Lhasa, acting under the influence of the lama, addressed a letter to the Raja in which the following significant expressions occurred:—'Your State of Sikkim borders on the great sea, which is in our hands and you are bound to do as we say. You are bound to prevent the Peking (English) Sabots from crossing the frontier; yet it is entirely through your action in making roads for the Sabots through Sikkim that they are going to make the projected attempt. If you consent to behave in this manner it will not be well with you. In future you should fulfil your obligations and obey the orders of the Dalai Lama and the Emperor of China.'

Matters have so far changed since 1873 that the Chinese Government have no sympathy with the Indian Government, and have instructed their representatives at Lhasa to do all in his power to resist the present difficulty; but the lama are still obstinately bent upon making good their claim to exercise full control over Sikkim, and they have set the Peking authorities at defiance. They may, perhaps, learn in the course of the next few weeks that they are not masters of the position. It is to be regretted that they should have to be taught this lesson at the point of the bayonet, but they have courted punishment, and we do not see how they can now escape it in a pretty severe form.

THE CURRENCY COMMISSION.

The *Pioneer* says:—We have received a communication from a correspondent who is concerned with the proposed Anglo-Indian agitation on behalf of silver, in the course of which it was stated that the last news about the Commission was 'by no means encouraging,' that the Commissioners were at a dead split; and that the outcome would probably be a double report, a bimetallic and a monometallic one. This account of the matter is in the main correct. The divergences of opinion among some of the members is no complete split, but it has long been evident that their signatures could hardly be brought under the same report. But there need be no reason on that account for discouragement. A few years ago it would have been impossible among English financial authorities to have got up a division on the question at all. At the situation stands to-day, the bimetallicists have got distinctly the best of it, being six to the monometallic five, while the Chairman, Lord Herschell, rides the fence. Moreover the six bimetallicists are united, they take

strong ground, and are prepared with practical proposals to remedy the mischief that all admit. Their report, therefore, will be the pithiest of the whole, and is certain from the personality of the writers to command attention and respect. The five dissentients, on the other hand, are in the feeble position of confessing the evils and the impossibility of calculating what they will disappear, but are not prepared to suggest any new departure. They are, moreover, divided among themselves, for while Sir John Farrer and Mr. Courtney are for the simple status quo, Sir John Lubbock, Sir J. Prentiss, and Mr. Bish are apparently willing to give certain concessions to silver provided they fall short of the adoption of the double standard. Finally, there is Lord Herschell, the Chairman, who admits the practicability of bimetallicism and its advantages, but frankly refuses to recommend it to the nation. But the whole body of Commissioners will be found unanimously to this point—that the decision of the Government must be brought about by changes in the comparative supplies of the two metals, but by the force of human legislation. The authoritative recognition of this all-important fact ought to sweep the ground for ever from under the feet of those who go about repeating the fallacious commonplace that gold and silver are commodities whose prices must be determined by supply and demand.

LATE NEWS.

The following are a few telegrams from Australian papers which we were obliged to leave over last night:—

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.
Washington, 23rd August.—President Cleveland, in a message to Congress, states that the action of the Senate in refusing to ratify the Fisheries Treaty, compels him to pursue a policy of vigorous relations calculated to induce loss. He advises that the free transit of bonded goods for Canada over United States territory be suspended, and that tolls be levied on Canadian vessels using American lakes, rivers, and canals. He says it is evident that the intended diplomatic efforts to prevent venetian interference with the commerce between America and Canada will not succeed at present, and that he will not hesitate to enforce retaliatory measures according to the powers already conferred. The Government had only half performed its duty by merely protecting citizens at home, while it seemed to be imposed upon and humiliated by the unfair and overreaching dispositions of other nations. He hopes the policy he indicates will be enforced calmly and firmly.

Aug. 28th.—President Cleveland took the Dominion Ministers entirely by surprise. The Canadian press reports the Governor's message, which is extremely popular in America, where it is considered that the President 'dished' the Republicans. Canadian ministers consider American retaliation will promote local trade, and the Dominion will be able to protect itself. Halifax and St. John will become great winter ports instead of Boston, Portland, and New York.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES.
London, Aug. 16.—A protracted sitting of the Sugar Bounties Conference was held under the presidency of Baron Henry de Meaux. The conference was adjourned until the 27th in order that the delegates may be enabled to refer to their respective Governments the various points of the discussion relating to the proposed removal of the bounties.

London, Aug. 25.—It is understood that France alone objects to the treaty for the abolition of sugar bounties.

THE HEALTH OF THE KING OF BAVARIA.
London, Aug. 28.—The King of Bavaria is in a critical state.

ILLNESS OF BARRY SULLIVAN.
London, Aug. 26.—Barry Sullivan, the tragedian, is dangerously ill.

RUMORS ABOUT MURDERERS FURNISHED.
London, Aug. 25.—It is reported that the Sultan of Morocco has wreaked a bloody vengeance upon Prince Mulek's murderers. The Sultan pursued the insurgents until his forces surrounded and besieged them. The safety of foreigners is endangered.

THE MONARCHY AT ROME.
London, Aug. 25.—At a banquet in Paris on Thursday night to celebrate the birthday of the Comte de Paris, M. Donifera and M. Pasquell both denounced the Republic, declaring that the re-establishing of a Monarchy would be the salvation of France. The sentiments were enthusiastically received.

CROP PROSPECTS.
London, August 28.—The harvest on the Continent, with the exception of Russia, is damaged owing to the bad weather. The crops are generally deficient and of poor quality.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE.
London, August 28.—The National League is inaugurated at Longford and Castleburgh through the operations of the Crimea Act.

ENGLISH FOOTBALLERS IN AUSTRALIA.
Brisbane, August 28.—The English footballers beat the Queensland team on Saturday at Bowen Park by seven points to nil.

THE FRENCH SAILOR.
London, August 28.—The French sailor, whom it was stated, was to undertake a series of manoeuvres, was unexpectedly disposed of on Monday. It has been suggested that this was done to pacify Italy.

PASSENGERS VISITED TO ADELAIDE.
London, August 28.—It is reported that Mr. John Dillon, M.P. for Ros. Mary, College (Green), and Sir P. G. G. Edmunds, M.P. for Dublin County (South), will leave England on a visit to Australia in November next.

THE AUSTRALIAN AUXILIARY FLEET.
London, August 15.—Sir William Armstrong and Sir John Lubbock have contracted for the construction of three cruisers to form part of the Australian Auxiliary fleet. Messrs Hawthorn and Leslie will supply the machinery for the vessels. Mr. Thomson, of Olydebank, has also obtained a contract for building the three cruisers.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.
London, Aug. 15.—Mr. Owen Jones, one of the directors of the Pacific Cable Company, and Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.M.G., who was formerly Engineer-in-Chief of the Canadian Pacific Railway, have had an interview with Sir John A. Macdonald, Premier of Canada, upon the subject of the proposed Pacific cable.

The interview is regarded as a satisfactory character.

CARDINAL MORAN IN IRELAND.
London, August 28.—Cardinal Moran is at present on a visit to Dr. Croke, Archbishop of Cashel in Tipperary.

[Archbishop Croke is an ardent sympathizer with the Irish Nationalists, and has taken a prominent part in recent movements.]

ITALY AND FRANCE.
London, Aug. 17.—M. Goblet, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, stated in the Chamber of Deputies that the latest Italian proposals for the conclusion of a commercial treaty between France and Italy were unacceptable.

Lo do, Aug. 19.—Signor Crispi, the Italian Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs, has replied to the circular note issued by M. Goblet, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the great Powers, in

which a protest was made against the Italian annexation of Massowah and Zoula, in the Red Sea.

Signor Crispi states that it was not necessary that Italy should notify to the Powers the annexation of the territory in question. He further accuses France, which he declares has no interest in Massowah, of interfering in favour of the Greeks with the object of bringing about the present incident.

The Italian Premier asserts that Italy will defend to the last in the Red Sea littoral the interests of justice and civilisation which she has taken under her care.

London, Aug. 21.—The arrival of the copy of Signor Crispi, the Italian Premier, to M. Goblet's circular is giving rise to a feeling of irritation in France, and arouses a suspicion that Germany is fomenting a quarrel between France and Italy.

The feeling on the Continent is now one of great anxiety. Signor Crispi has started for Friedrichshagen.

London, Aug. 23.—It is believed that the object of the visit of Signor Crispi, the Italian Premier, to Friedrichshagen is to discuss the results of the recent meeting of the Emperor William with the Czar of Russia. Signor Crispi starts for Carlsbad to-day.

August 23.—A meeting has taken place between Prince Bismarck and Signor Crispi. The German Chancellor warmly welcomed Signor Crispi.

The Times declares that the visit of Signor Crispi to Germany is likely to inflame the excitement and alarm on the Continent, owing to the strained relations between France and Italy.

The German press considers that Signor Crispi's note to M. Goblet resembles a memorandum which is intended to provoke a war.

August 28.—The excitement in France is increasing.

AS IMPERIAL DISCOVERY IS announced in the 'Paris Figure' of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion and premature decay. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. We learn that the Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Quotations.

HONGKONG, September 15.	
OPIMUM—New Pattern, cash, 5224/5225	
" Old " cash, 535/5374	
" New Banarash, cash, 4974/510	
" Old " cash, 4974/510	
" New Malwa, cash, 570	
" Old Malwa, cash, 580/590	
" Persia, Oily, cash, 8/32	
" Persia, Oily, cash, 8/32	
" Persia, Paper fold, 500/510	
" Allowance, Tael, 16/32	

Exchange.

HONGKONG, September 15.	
Bank, Wire, 3/16	
" On Demand, 3/16	
" 30 days' sight, 3/16	
" 60 days' sight, 3/16	
" 90 days' sight, 3/16	
" 120 days' sight, 3/16	
" 150 days' sight, 3/16	
" 180 days' sight, 3/16	
" 210 days' sight, 3/16	
" 240 days' sight, 3/16	
" 270 days' sight, 3/16	
" 300 days' sight, 3/16	
" 330 days' sight, 3/16	
" 360 days' sight, 3/16	
" 390 days' sight, 3/16	
" 420 days' sight, 3/16	
" 450 days' sight, 3/16	
" 480 days' sight, 3/16	
" 510 days' sight, 3/16	
" 540 days' sight, 3/16	
" 570 days' sight, 3/16	
" 600 days' sight, 3/16	
" 630 days' sight, 3/16	
" 660 days' sight, 3/16	
" 690 days' sight, 3/16	
" 720 days' sight, 3/16	
" 750 days' sight, 3/16	
" 780 days' sight, 3/16	
" 810 days' sight, 3/16	
" 840 days' sight, 3/16	
" 870 days' sight, 3/16	
" 900 days' sight, 3/16	
" 930 days' sight, 3/16	
" 960 days' sight, 3/16	
" 990 days' sight, 3/16	
" 1020 days' sight, 3/16	
" 1050 days' sight, 3/16	
" 1080 days' sight, 3/16	

